## 748

# TOP SECRET



#### GENERAL

1. US recognition of Transjordan urged--US Consul General Macdonald in Jerusalem strongly recommends that the Department of State consider extending recognition to Transjordan. Macdonald believes that such recognition would be timely in view of the fact that Transjordan accepted both Security Council truces, was mainly responsible (together with Egypt) for acceptance of the truces by the other Arab states, and continues to be the leading advocate of peace and moderation within the Arab League.

US Representative Stabler in Amman has been informed by King Abdullah of Transjordan that he believes any final settlement of the Palestine problem will have to be imposed on both Jews and Arabs by the Security Council. Abdullah stated emphatically that he thought the Arabs would accept such a settlement. Abdullah also said that: (a) it would be necessary to have separate Jewish and Arab areas in Palestine; (b) the Arab areas should be attached to Transjordan; and (c) population shifts should be made to take care of minority problems.

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2. US proposes delay in disposition of Italian colonies—The Department of State has expressed to the US delegation in London the view that postponement for another year of the final disposition of the Italian colonies appears to be the only solution which would meet US and UK strategic requirements and still be acceptable to the General Assembly. The Department is urging the UK Government to give serious consideration to postponement because of US, British, and French differences on the Italian colonial question and because of the unlikelihood that a proposal based on US-British ideas would be accepted by the General Assembly in September 1948.

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### NEAR EAST-AFRICA

3. PALESTINE: Arab refugees seen as potential source of trouble— A British Foreign Office official has informed US Embassy London that there are now some 250,000 Arab refugees from the Jewish

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State Department review completed

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part of Palestine. The Foreign Office believes that the concentration of these refugees in countries neighboring Palestine is beginning to have serious economic and social reperculsions and that the refugees are likely to cause trouble for the It cal governments. The Foreign Office, which estimates that the number of Arab refugees in the Middle East is now greater than the number of Jewish refugees in Europe, is looking into the possibility that the International Refugee Organization cap take some action in the matter.